

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 NEA-14 ISO-00 AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11 EUR-25 RSC-01

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07

PA-04 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 SAB-01 ACDA-19 SAM-01

DRC-01 /187 W

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R 232233Z MAY 74

FM USMISSION USUN NEWYORK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4231

INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 1945

BEIRUT PASS BAGHDAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UN, IR, IZ

SUBJ: IRAN-IRAQ SECURITY COUNCIL DISPUTE

REF: USUN 1920 AND PREVIOUS

1. IRANIAN PERMREP HOVEYDA CALLED ON AMBS SCALI AND BENNETT MAY 23 TO DISCUSS SC HANDLING OF SYG'S REPORT ON IRAN-IRAQ DISPUTE.

2. HOVEYDA SAID IRAN WAS HAPPY TO SEE IRAQIS HAD COME TO ACCEPT LONG-STANDING IRANIAN POSITION THAT BILATERAL NEGOTIATIONS WERE ONLY WAY TO SETTLE PROBLEMS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES. THIS WAS PURPORT OF DRAFT RESOLUTION, WHICH IRAN ACCEPTED. NEVERTHELESS, IRANIAN GOVT HAD ONE IMPORTANT OBJECTION TO THE RESOLUTION: IT EVADED QUESTION OF WHO THE AGGRESSOR WAS -- AND THAT WAS POINT OF BOTH SC CONSIDERATION AND WECKMANN MISSION. HOVEYDA SAID HE INTENDED TO MAKE THIS POINT IN HIS STATEMENT TO COUNCIL.

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3. SCALI AND BENNETT SAID THEY THOUGHT IRAN WOULD BE

EXTREMELY ILL-ADVISED TO INTRODUCE CONTENTIOUS POINT INTO SC DEBATE. DRAFT RESOLUTION WAS TILTED VERY MUCH TOWARD IRAN, AND SINCE THIS WAS APPARENT TO EVERY ONE, IRAN SHOULD ADOPT ATTITUDE TO BENEVOLENCE. MOREOVER, BILATERAL TALKS WHICH IRAN WISHED WERE MUCH MORE LIKELY TO RESUME IN ATMOSPHERE OF SWEETNESS AND LIGHT THAN OF BITTERNESS. FINALLY, THERE WAS VERY REAL DANGER THAT RESOLUTION FAVORABLE TO IRAN WOULD UNRAVEL IF HOVEYDA REOPENED ATTACKS ON IRAQ AND CRITICIZED WECKMANN AGREEMENT. PERHAPS GREATEST SPECIFIC DANGER WAS THAT IRAQ WOULD PROPOSE, AND COUNCIL AGREE TO, ADDITIONAL PARAGRAPH STATING THAT SC REMAINED SEIZED OF QUESTION, AS WE UNDERSTOOD IT, IRAN'S PRINCIPAL OBJECTIVE WAS TO GET SC OUT OF THE ISSUE.

4. HOVEYDA SAID HE VERY MUCH APPRECIATED US ADVICE, AND WOULD REPORT IT TO TEHRAN. ON LEAVING, HE INDICATED THAT HIS PERSONAL INCLINATION WAS TO AVOID CONTENTIOUS DEBATE IF POSSIBLE. WE HOPE WE TURNED HIM AROUND.
SCALI

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